

Read the rest of
Transition
Over on Page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you

To the Editor:
Dear Willits Weekly, thank you so much for having Matthew Caine come out to the Grange Garden!

He wrote a wonderful article about what we're offering to the community throughout the summer. We are planning on having bi-weekly event – these will be general garden tours to explain how to use the various herbs that grow well in this area and that are to be seen, touched, smelled, and tasted in the Grange's Medicine Chest Garden.

We will also offer classes to inspire everyone in the community to use these wonderful herbs in various ways, as culinary delights and for herbal medicinal purposes. As we mentioned, this could not have happened if we didn't have an awesome, dedicated group of volunteers, and several local businesses that stand out as most generous donors:

DripWorks donated the whole irrigation system with assembly by their experts, Mendo Mill gave us supplies and hardware parts, and Cold Creek Compost donated a huge delivery of compost that filled the beds and has proven to be amazing.

We also have some private donors who were very generous with lumber, wood chips and additional provisions. The herbs were largely grown by Donna d'Terra, Leslie King, Annie Waters, and Claudia Wenning, and have come to flourish wonderfully. It is such a joy to watch them.

We have a video, "Little Lake Grange Medicine Chest Garden Demonstration and Education Project," that shows how this all came to pass. View the video online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ0VVq8vGN4.

Again, thank you for sharing this with your readership, and we're looking forward to offering many more inspirational visits to the garden until the end of this season.

Claudia Wenning, Willits

WHS All '80s Class Reunion, July 5

Join your fellow WHS Willits High School alumni for an unforgettable gathering filled with stories, laughter, and great company at the All '80s Class Reunion, set for Saturday, July 5 from 5 to 9:30 pm.

The reunion will be held at the garden patio of The Whistle Stop café, with local wine, beer, and non-alcoholic options included. Fresh Taco Bar – because everything's better with tacos! All the fixings, all the fun.

Get ready to hit the dance floor as local Willits band Funkacillin plays your favorite tunes. \$85 per person.

Reconnect, reminisce, and make new memories – because the best stories are shared together.

For more information: www.facebook.com/groups/315308430857720

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Willits Weekly prints letters and commentaries about Willits and Third District issues, activities, events, and people. We print letters to the editor from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once every four weeks.

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. Deadline is end of day Monday for each Thursday edition. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Willits Weekly

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 13, Number 599

3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633 / 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographress / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-972-7047

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

Matthew Caine, photographer / features writer

Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter

BB Kamoroff, news reporter

Annie Everts, reporter / features writer

Addison Alvarado, school board reporter

Danya Davis, Police Log

Margi Gomez Guhde, features writer / reporter

Sheri Dockins, sports reporter

Ava Dockins, sports photographer

April Tweddell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com

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North Coast Rep. Huffman on Senate passage of Trump's budget bill

Submitted by the Office of Jared Huffman

Washington, D.C. – On Tuesday, Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Jared Huffman (D-Calif.) released the following statement after the Senate passed President Trump's Big, Ugly Bill:

"The Senate just jammed through a scorched-earth reconciliation bill so toxic that it is worse than the House version if you can believe it. It takes away healthcare from millions of Americans, rips food assistance from kids and seniors, and guts the very safeguards that protect our clean air and water – all to reward the same fossil fuel CEOs Trump asked for a billion-dollar campaign check.

It props up the dirty energy of the past, suffocates clean energy, and sticks American families with higher costs, dirtier air and water, and growing floods, fires, and climate disasters.

"Republicans tried to push through the biggest public lands sell-off in modern history – and got rejected so badly they had to yank it. But make no mistake: this bill still guts protections, opens millions of acres to drilling, mining and logging, and rewrites the rules into a pay-to-play scheme for Trump's billionaire donors. And this just adds to what the Trump administration is already doing to sell out our public lands to polluters and developers.

"This isn't a beautiful bill; it's a Big Betrayal. It slashes hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs. It kneecaps investments that are finally flowing to rural towns, Tribal nations, and working-class communities. And it would drive up costs across the board – electricity, healthcare, food – forcing families to pay more just so fossil fuel CEOs and already wealthy corporations can rake in record profits. No wonder nearly two-thirds of Americans oppose it.

"Now it heads back to the House, where Republicans better be ready to explain why they're ripping up healthcare and food assistance, selling out public lands, gutting clean air and water safeguards, and driving up energy bills, all so billionaires and big oil CEOs can get richer."

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501

Thursday, July 3: Cheese Burger, Pickle, Chips

Friday, July 4: Center Closed. Happy 4th of July!

Monday, July 7: Blue Zones Inspired: Greek Salad

Tuesday, July 8: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, July 9: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Cornbread, Veggies

Thursday, July 10: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies, Roll

Friday, July 11 Chicken w/Hollandaise Sauce, Veggies, Roll

Activities: Bingo on Friday nights, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Juliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

Gov. Newsom signs 2025/26 state budget

Submitted by the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Sacramento – Amid Donald Trump's economic assault on California, Governor Gavin Newsom on Friday signed the 2025 state budget bill advanced in partnership with Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire and Speaker Robert Rivas.

Together, the Governor and Legislature are enacting a responsible, balanced spending plan that safeguards California's values while maintaining long-term fiscal health. This budget and forthcoming trailer bills include new, landmark policies that will accelerate housing production and boost affordability in communities across the state – addressing California's most urgent challenges.

"As we confront Donald Trump's economic sabotage," Governor Newsom stated, "this budget agreement proves California won't just hold the line – we'll go even further. It's balanced, it maintains substantial reserves, and it's focused on supporting Californians – slashing red tape and catapulting housing and infrastructure development, preserving essential healthcare services, funding universal pre-K, and cutting taxes for veterans."

Pro Tem Mike McGuire says: "The state is delivering a responsible on-time budget in a challenging year focused on fiscal restraint and investing in the people and programs that make this state great. This budget prioritizes record funding for our kids and public schools, protects access to health care for millions of the most vulnerable, and will create more housing at a scale not seen in years. Thanks to this budget agreement, the state will help get more folks off the streets and into permanent shelter, and we'll expand the ranks of CAL FIRE, deploying hundreds of additional full-time CAL FIRE firefighters, which will save lives and make us all more wildfire safe.

"And this agreement helps prepare our state for the ongoing chaos and massive uncertainty caused by the Trump administration," McGuire said. "Thank you to our Senate Budget Chair Scott Wiener, Speaker Rivas, and Governor Newsom and their staffs for their hard work for the people of California."

Speaker Robert Rivas says: "This is an incredibly difficult time for Californians. Trump is undermining our economy with reckless tariffs, harsh cuts, and ICE agents terrorizing our communities. At a moment when so many are already struggling, he's adding fear and instability. In contrast, Democrats have delivered a budget that protects California. It cuts red tape to build more housing faster – because housing is the foundation of affordability and opportunity. It preserves critical investments in health care, women's health, education, and public safety. And it honors our commitment not to raise taxes on families, workers, or small businesses. In unprecedented times, under painful circumstances, Democrats are delivering for Californians."

Tax cuts for vets, smaller class sizes, free school meals

The budget reflects a shared commitment to protect opportunity and improve affordability in California, in the face of targeted attacks by the Trump administration. The budget makes historic investments in public education – from universal transitional kindergarten and free school meals to expanded before- and after-school programs, summer school, smaller class sizes, and strengthened career training and higher education. The budget demonstrates the state's commitment to honoring veterans by creating tax cuts for military retirees, recognizing their service, and supporting their financial security.

Lowering prescription drug costs, protecting reproductive care, and safety nets

The budget preserves key health care programs for Californians targeted by Republicans. It preserves vital safety net programs, including in-home supportive services and women's reproductive health. As part of the budget, Governor Newsom is also expected to sign legislation protecting access to health care, license and regulate pharmacy benefit managers for the first time, increasing transparency

Read the rest of Newsom | Over on page 4



Above, from left: Kyle finds this "bad boy" when searching through storage units for saleable items. Judith hopes to buy materials to repurpose. Julia Sotomayor, one of the principals of the Willits Gem and Mineral Society, is selling gems and minerals. Brittany has a lot of toys to sell, as well as some electronic gear, including an analog television. At right: Kids, dogs and adults all find something of interest at the Willits Mini Storage event. At right, below: Tom McCann is into fixing antique chairs and building new items from old doors and repurposing old wood. At right, below, far right: The Willits Senior Center is represented by board members Sue Sawyers, Dorothy Roediger, and Cathie Gernhardt, who sell hot dogs to the attendees.

Rummage and Mingle

Willits Mini Storage holds annual garage sale with a wide selection of unique and useful goods

Storage units are places where people stash the things they don't need immediately, sometimes to be forgotten for years, and sometimes they are a place where people store things they wish to organize for re-sale. Often, the people who have the spaces forget what they have left there. Some people hold on to the spaces because they know, if they didn't, there will be that one piece of art, or a tool, or some manner of material that will become needed for a future project. One never knows.

Once a year, Willits Mini Storage invites their renters to display several of those items in a giant garage sale. The public is invited to enter the premises and wander through the rows of garage-like areas, where the renters are showing whatever they wish to sell.

Close to 40 vendors put up tables and pop-up tents and greeted prospective buyers looking for bargains. There was clothing, materials, tools, objects d'arte, an Egyptian pharaoh sarcophagus (at least a reasonable facsimile), precious stones, and plenty of conversations. Buyers could wander through the 13 rows of storage spaces and find one or more vendors in each of the rows.

"We have a little bit of everything out here," said Lynn Rosati, who was selling on behalf of her daughter who had to work. "Everybody has a bit of everything here. It's crazy, right? We have a beautiful outdoor patio set that actually has a fire pit in the middle, with a propane tank. We have a lovely couch set that has recliners [huge corner round set with several sections] We have a punching bag. We have T-shirts. We have watches galore. We have a Nordic Trak. Coleman camp stove and a Weber barbecue pit. It's brand new."

Most of the vendors were showing very eclectic selections of goods. "My parents are from Switzerland, but I only can speak bad words," said Briallen. "I have some rocks and some clothes. This is a treadmill for sitting down. I don't know if I want to sell that inversion table. I was wanting to use it but I may never get around to it. These are my boyfriend's swords. He told people to make an offer because he doesn't know what they're worth and I don't know anything about swords. I should sell the smart pot. Why do we need three of them? This is a fan for drying paint. It's great for when we shampoo the carpet."

Julia Sotomayor was selling rocks. As one of the principals of the Willits Gem and Mineral Society,

her rocks were semi-precious stones. Parker is a semi-professional trader. He's "got a lot of stuff. I work hard for it. I hunt it down. It's actually kind of a hobby." He was showing some of his many antique hand scythes. He also had a bear rug and a chicken-themed trivet. The Willits Mini Storage had a stand, selling hotdogs, watched over by board members Dorothy Roediger, Cathie Gernhardt and Sue Sawyers.

Tom McCann is into fixing antique chairs and creating new useful shelves from old doors. "Nobody likes to spend the money to buy good chairs nowadays. This is a 100-year-old door," he said pointing out a shelf set he made. "It has adjustable shelves. Most of it was scrap wood I had around the house. I like to be creative and refurbish old stuff," said McCann, who also was showing an old bar beer sign with a scene of a river that would animate the water when plugged in and turned on.

There were organizations represented as well. The Soroptimists (who provide scholarships for women) had a booth near the entrance. Barbara O'Reardon, who manned the booth with two of her cohorts, said, "One of our Soroptimist sisters manages this place. She gave us this unit here for our stuff, for the sale. So, here we are. All the things we've collected in this unit. We have a rice cooker, a barbecue thermometer. The onion machine, to cook onions, is brand new, never been used. There's even a hot dog cooker."

"We have a lot of old camera gear," one seller named Dave said. "I sell mostly outdoor camping gear. She sells fashion clothes. This is our first time doing one of these garage sale events at the mini storage. We've sold lots of good stuff already. We sold a generator and a whole bunch of cool outdoor gear. We have tents and sleeping bags. We have this fat-tired bike that you can use at the beach. I'm from Montana, so someone might want to use it in the snow as well."

Facility manager Kristi Koopman, who was also working the Soroptimist booth, said: "I think a lot of the benefit from doing this sale is the community involvement. The community really likes when we have it. People mingle and it's a social thing. People do really sell things. When you have a storage unit, you end up with junk you don't need."

Willits Mini Storage is located at 261 Franklin Avenue. Call 459-2529 for information about renting a unit or visit <https://willitsministorage.com/>.



Above, left: Several different versions of the classic game of Monopoly, including Ukiah Opoly, are for sale. At left: A unique collection of goods are just some of the many collectible items offered for sale on Saturday.

Claudia Wenning

Quantum Level Health

Holistic Health Consultant

PhD Natural Medicine, Traditional Naturopath

Functional Medicine Practitioner, FMP

707 371 6103 - claudia@claudiawenning.com

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

				8		9	1	
4				5		2		7
							3	
	2							
3		9						6
6		5		7	9			
1			7			3		4
	4			1	5			
				2		8		

Level: Advanced

HOW TO
SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

STAR SPANGLED WORD SEARCH

A	N	S	T	E	K	C	O	R	G	E	L	S	R	P	U	B	S	P	L	F	L	U
C	O	M	Y	I	T	C	O	F	S	S	S	P	N	A	G	O	P	I	N	C	R	K
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O	M	S	L	E	I	R	B	G	L	L	A	N	D	D	Y	U	R	F	B	W		

AMERICA	FOURTH	ICE CREAM	SPANGLED
BACKYARD	FRANKFURTER	INDEPENDENCE	STAR
BURGER	GATHERING	LEMONADE	SUMMER
CELEBRATE	GRILLING	POOL	SUNSHINE
DESSERT	GUESTS	ROCKETS	UNITED
FLAG	HOLIDAY	SKY	WARM

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	
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19				20			21			22			23
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56			57	58		59				60			61
62			63		64			65					66
67		68										69	
	70							71					

CLUES ACROSS

- Notes
- Long-haired dog breed
- ESPN's nickname
- Spanish be
- Disadvantage
- Of I
- Actor Pacino
- On your way: ___ route
- Fifth note of a major scale
- Companies need it
- News agency
- Faces of an organization
- Ponds
- Samoa's capital
- Partner to 'Pa'
- Adult male
- Cool!
- Used of a number or amount not specified
- No No No
- Hosts film festival
- British place to house convicts
- Made of fermented honey and water
- Chief
- College army
- Thyroid-stimulating hormone
- Consume
- One point north of
- due east
- For instance
- Brews
- Alaskan river
- Not soft
- Atomic #22
- 'The Golden State'
- 'The world's most famous arena'
- Larry and Curly's pal
- One billion gigabytes
- Conducts inspections
- Malaria mosquitoes
- Unit to measure width
- Features
- Affairs
- Letter of Semitic abjads

CLUES DOWN

- Follower of Islam
- Trauma center
- French young women
- Norse god
- U.S. commercial flyer (abbr.)
- Merchant
- Peyton's younger brother
- Jungle planet in 'Star Wars' galaxy
- Tree-dwelling animal of C. and S. America
- 'Pollack' actor Harris
- Stalks around
- Put on
- Influential Norwegian playwright
- Christian ___ designer
- Fulfills a debt
- More (Spanish)
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- Remedy
- Disturbance
- 'The Martian' actor Matt
- Express delight
- Brooklyn hoopster
- 1900 lamp
- Motionless
- One's mother (Brit.)
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Compels to act
- Gardening tool
- Ancient country
- Frightening
- Wimbledon champion Arthur
- Popular plant
- Database management system
- Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- Where soldiers eat
- 64th month (abbr.)
- Illuminated
- Atomic #18
- Dead one to travel

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

June 16 to June 22

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported **46 incidents** in this 7 day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

June 16

12:39 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 600 block of South Main Street.

June 17

6:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:36 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

June 18

10:43 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

5:33 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

June 19

8:59 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

9:36 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road.

6:05 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of Northbrook Way.

8:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Della Avenue and

Meadowbrook Drive and issued a citation.

9:15 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

June 20

10:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

June 21

1:05 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

1:54 am: GOFORTH, Brady Kevin (59) of Willits was contacted in the 1600 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of carrying a concealed dirk or dagger and on misdemeanor charges of public intoxication (alcohol).

5:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Central Street and East Oak Street and issued a citation.

7:36 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1000 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

June 22

12:46 am: Officers responded to a report of a prowler in the 100 block of California Street.

4:02 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:06 pm: BUTTREY, Kenneth Wayne (67) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Monroe Street. He was arrested on felony charges of failure to appear.

6:58 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

CAL FIRE maintains zero tolerance for illegal fireworks

Submitted by CAL FIRE Sacramento

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection would like to remind all Californians that there is no tolerance when it comes to illegal fireworks. The sale, transport, or use of fireworks without the "Office of the State Fire Marshal Safe and Sane" seal is illegal, as is possessing or using even "Safe and Sane" fireworks in communities – like Mendocino County – where they are not allowed.

Violators face potential fines up to \$50,000 as well as a year in jail.

"We all must do our part to keep 4th of July fun and safe.... Our message is clear: illegal fireworks won't be tolerated, and you will be prosecuted. They run the risk of starting dangerous fires in the peak of our fire season," said Governor Gavin Newsom in a news release distributed Monday morning.

Over the past several months, CAL FIRE's Office of the State Fire Marshal's specialized Arson and Bomb Investigators have been aiding local and federal illegal fireworks enforcement efforts.

Illegal fireworks include:

- Skyrockets
- Bottle rockets
- Roman candles
- Aerial shells

The rest of
Newsom

From page 2

and accountability in the pharmacy supply chain. The legislation also expands CalRx's authority to procure brand-name drugs and respond to politically motivated supply disruptions, helping shield access to critical medications like mifepristone.

Lights, camera, jobs

The budget protects California's position as the fourth largest economy in the world – supporting business and continued economic growth, including California's iconic film industry. Next week, the governor is expected to sign additional legislation as part of the expansion of the film and TV tax credit program – further catapulting the program's impact to \$750 million a year.

Trump's economic assault

The balanced budget comes as California continues to confront significant fiscal pressures fueled by the Trump administration's reckless economic and immigration policies. According to the California Department of Finance, Trump's tariff regime is projected to cost the state an estimated \$16 billion in lost General Fund revenue through the next fiscal year. And a new study released June 17 by the Bay Area Council Economic Institute, in collaboration with UC Merced, found that Trump's mass deportations could slash \$275 billion from California's economy, eliminate \$23 billion in annual tax revenue, and severely disrupt key industries such as agriculture, construction, and hospitality.

In the face of these mounting challenges, the Governor issued a proclamation to access state reserves. This responsible and balanced budget protects Californians, creates more housing, preserves core programs, reinforces fiscal discipline, and invests in the state's long-term economic strength.



Above: Young artists, surrounding art historian and arts educator Gary Marin, show off their work. At left: Arts educator Gary Martin gives a presentation about art basics to students.



WCA seeks volunteers for countywide 'Art History for Young Students' program

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is proud to announce the launch of "Art History for Young Students," an exciting new educational initiative designed to bring the richness of art history into local classrooms throughout Mendocino County. The program seeks passionate volunteers to help introduce young minds to the beauty, power, and relevance of art throughout the ages.

WCA invites individuals with an interest in art, education, or cultural history to participate in this community-driven effort. Whether you are an artist, teacher, student, or simply someone who values the arts, this is your opportunity to share your knowledge and ignite curiosity in the next generation.

Training sessions for volunteers will be held at the Willits Center for the Arts on two sets of dates \ August 16 and 17 or August 23 and 24.

Participants will be introduced to basic teaching strategies, key periods in art history, and a toolkit of materials to use in the classroom. No prior teaching experience is necessary – just a willingness to engage and a love for art and culture.

For those traveling more than 30 minutes to attend training, accommodations will be provided, along with meals for all attendees throughout the weekend sessions.

This program aims to serve every school district in Mendocino County, ensuring that students across our rural communities have the opportunity to learn about art and visual culture from a young age.

"We believe that fostering a deeper understanding of art and visual culture from an early age helps create more thoughtful, creative, and empathetic individuals," said a WCA representative. "This program is a meaningful way for community members to make a lasting impact."

If you're ready to make a difference and help young students see the world through the lens of art, please reach out to Gary Martin to sign up or learn more: Call or text: (707) 972-3326 or email: gtm1950@gmail.com

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS presents

POMO LAND

NO MORE FALLEN SISTERS
Curated by Craig Gardner & Misty Reyes



POMO FAMILY ART & CRAFT
Curated by Melody Williams



OPENING SAT July 5th 6~8pm
COMMUNITY, FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, & ART TALK
71 Commercial St, Willits, CA
Exhibit extends through Sunday July 27

Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
"Sin Tah Mana" Welcome

32nd Annual Big Time Celebration

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2025 • 11:00 AM-DUSK

- Salmon BBQ • Native Dancers
- Crafts & Food Vendors
- Health & Wellness Booths
- "Commod" Cook Off

* "Commod Cook Off" 11 am to 1pm. Free to enter, registration forms available at Sherwood Tribal Office. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winning dishes.

This is an alcohol, tobacco, and drug free event

For vendor application and more information call Jodi Spolund @ (707) 544-0647. For your convenience vendor applications can be picked up at the Sherwood Tribal Office.

For more information or to register your dance group contact Carmen Ochoa at (707) 459-4690.

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Willits Fest set to bring music, art, and community spirit to Rec Grove, July 26

Submitted by Charter School Association of Willits

The Charter School Association of Willits is proud to announce the inaugural Willits Fest, a free, all-ages community event celebrating local music, art, and education. The festival will take place on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 12 noon to 9 pm at Recreation Grove Park on South Lenore Avenue.

This exciting new event is a benefit for both Willits Elementary Charter School and Willits Charter School, with all proceeds going toward arts and enrichment programs. The event promises a full day of entertainment, family activities, and community connection.

Festival highlights include:

- Local Willits artists featuring multiple Willits musicians
- Performances by fire dancers and the Wildfire Dancers troupe
- Kids activities such as face painting, crafts, and hula hooping
- Art and craft vendors showcasing local handmade goods
- Dunk tank, raffles, and other interactive attractions
- Delicious food provided by local vendors, including Turtle Island Tacos

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Sponsor right-hand fingernail polish - Pink/Red	\$500.00	SPONSORED!
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Additional donations of any amount accepted and appreciated to help reach goal!

TOTAL NEEDED: \$38,500.00

Fundraising underway now for Cowgirl Wilma

We're excited the fundraising is well underway to bring Cowgirl Wilma to Willits to stand alongside Cowboy Willy, the large cowboy statue at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds.

The above major sponsor items are available for individuals, businesses or families to purchase, and help decide some of the key details to our new lady. All items are first-come, first-served, so please reach out ASAP if you have specific interests in any sponsorable item.

Of course, any amount will be accepted and appreciated and will go towards her \$38,500 total needed. We plan to have Wilma installed and ready for the 2026 Willits Frontier Days celebration, which is also the centennial year as the events first took place in 1926.

Anyone interested in donating to the Wilma project can contact Maureen Jennison at 707-972-7047 or email willitsfrontierdays@gmail.com Remember, Willits Frontier Days is a non-profit and donation paperwork can be provided upon request.

A link on the Willits Frontier Days website, www.willitsfrontierdays.com/wilma.html, allows online donations with a PayPal payment, or credit card number. Checks can be mailed to PO Box 800 in Willits, CA 95490 – please note "Wilma" in the memo field.

– Maureen Jennison

Scan the QR Code to access the Wilma page on the Willits Frontier Days website





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Willits Frontier Days Upcoming Events:

Thursday, July 3:

Willits Frontier Days CCPRA Rodeo: The first half of the 2025 California Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association Rodeo kicks off at 7 pm on Thursday, July 3 at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds. Come watch professional (and a few locals in the Locals classes!) compete in traditional events like bull and bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, barrel racing and more. Tickets are \$30 for box seats; \$25 for adults; \$15 for children 12 and under, and children under the age of 2 are free to attend. The center act, the trick-riding Diablo Ladies and Lefty the Rodeo Clown, will entertain guests during the event as well. All-Around titles, including cash prizes, a silver belt buckle and a custom saddle, will be awarded to the cowboy and cowgirl with the best scores gained from multiple events, and individual event winners will also be awarded with cash and silver buckles.

Willits Frontier Days Western Dance: On Thursday, July 3, the Western Dance will take place at the stage in the old tennis courts at the Willits Rodeo Grounds. This event is free to attend and will start around 9 pm.

Friday, July 4:

Willits Frontier Days Horseshoe Competition: Watch teams try to toss horseshoes across the pits with the best accuracy at the Rec Grove Park starting at 10 am on Friday, July 4. The event is free to attend.

Willits Frontier Days Main Street Parade: Get your spot early so you have the best view for the annual Willits Frontier Days Main Street Parade starting at 11 am on Friday, July 4. As usual, the parade will start heading west down Commercial Street, head south on Main Street, and then back east on East Valley Street. The public is welcome to watch anywhere along the parade route and cheer on the floats, groups and individuals who will showcase their entries for this well-loved annual free event. This year's theme is "Traveling through Generations."

Willits Frontier Days Rodeola and Western BBQ: After the parade and starting around noon, the Rec Grove will become the center of Willits Frontier Days activity on Friday, July 4, when it will be time to relax with a plate of BBQ and live entertainment. The free-to-attend Rodeola will take place on the stage and feature several bands and live entertainment to enjoy during the early afternoon. The BBQ will offer up the perfect lunch to enjoy in the shade, usually including meat, salad, beans, bread and dessert. Tickets are required for the BBQ and cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children aged three and up.

BACK THIS YEAR! Willits Frontier Days and Little Lake Fire Department Water Fights: After several years off, the Waterfights, a soaking, splashing fun and free-to-attend event will return once again to the Humboldt Street block between the Little Lake Fire Department and the City Park starting at 4 pm on Friday, July 4. Firefighters will battle with the hoses to push a metal barrel across a line using the stream of high-pressured water. Bring your splash-zone parka, or get soggy as you watch the wet and wild action from the sidewalk and sidelines.

Willits Frontier Days CCPRA Rodeo: The second half of the 2025 California Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association Rodeo kicks off at 7 pm on Friday, July 4 at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds. This event used to be at 4 pm, but has been moved back to 7 pm – note the new time! Come watch professional (and a few locals in the Locals classes!) compete in traditional events like bull and bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, barrel racing and more. Tickets are \$30 for box seats; \$25 for adults; \$15 for children 12 and under, and children under the age of 2 are free to attend. The center act, the trick-riding Diablo Ladies and Lefty the Rodeo Clown, will entertain guests during the event as well. All-Around titles, including cash prizes, a silver belt buckle and a custom saddle, will be awarded to the cowboy and cowgirl with the best scores gained from multiple events, and individual event winners will also be awarded with cash and silver buckles.

Saturday, July 5:

Willits Frontier Days and Lions Club Pancake Breakfast: Get your pancake fix handled at the Willits Lions Club Pancake Breakfast starting at 7 am on Saturday, July 5 at the Rec Grove. The crew will be cooking up a delicious meal of eggs, pancakes, meats and more. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under.

Willits Frontier Days Junior Rodeo: Come see the next generation of cowboys and cowgirls compete in a host of events at the Junior Rodeo, starting at 8 am on Saturday, July 5 at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds. Contestants are 18 and under for the junior events, but compete in several of the same competitions as their adult counterparts including barrel racing, team roping, bronc and bull riding and more. There are some fun junior-only events, too: goat tying, sheep riding and the mystery scramble, to name a few. Tickets are \$10 for adults.

Willits Frontier Days Bulls and Broncs: If you just want the heart-pounding action of bull and bronc riding, then come by the Bulls and Broncs event starting at 7 pm on Saturday, July 5 to see a whole bunch of that, and a little more sheep riding, and some breakaway roping, too. This event is brought to you by Clayton Cooley and Kevin Rountree and tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

More information can be found online at www.WillitsFrontierDays.com or email willitsfrontierdays@gmail.com with questions



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Above, from left: Mackay Hasch drives Mustang Legacy in the annual Truck and Tractor Pulls event. This driver's run ended in an unintended cloud of smoke and distress. MLM arena men help communicate with the drivers with the use of red and green flags. At far left: Hammer Down expels exhaust like a train locomotive during the run. At left: Drivers have weights on their bumpers and extra modifications to help them gain traction. Below: John Boer, driver of Code3, placed ninth in the Pro Modified 6,200-pound Truck Class with a pull of 316.25 feet. At bottom, from left: Kevin and Jamie Bouthillier run heavy equipment to help flatten the track between each pull. The Whip driver, Kevin Massetti, glances out of the driver's cage for a quick photo. Agent Orange and driver Ralph Tramp took 11th place in the Pro Modified 6,200-pound Truck Class, even with a full pull of 312.22.

Truck & Tractor Pulls

Annual battle against The Terminator has many trucks and drivers making a full pull at Willits Frontier Days event

The Truck and Tractor Pulls event gives Willits Frontier Days patrons an event to attend that's not focused on livestock in the arena, but instead, the ground is flattened, and the arena turns into a 300-foot straight track for big engines and big tires.

Each driver gets a chance to attach to and pull against The Terminator, a weighted sled that can be adjusted to the desired resistance based on several weight classes of the truck and driver. Those who make the furthest distance win their class. 300 feet counts as a "full pull." Some make it far,

Read the rest of Pulls Over on page 15



Photo by Matthew Jennison



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Above, from left: 2025 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart winner Lisa Arkelian, left, stands with sister and 2024 winner Elena Arkelian just after the crowning. Willits Frontier Days secretary Hailey Riley stands with Top Hand Steven Hoyle. Jeff Cook holds his Heritage Award belt buckle, alongside Riley. Riley stands with her parents Bonnie and Paul Riley, who were named Grand Marshals of this year's festivities. Co-birthday gals, June Sizemore and Aybrie Whitehurst, both celebrated their birthdays the same day as the dinner. Melissa Arana and Paul Souza of East Side Ranch smile with Cowboy Willy in the background. This Stars and Stripes quilt was made by Jenn Drew and Pam Parrish and was auctioned off for \$1,800 to Bonnie Riley to support the Willits Frontier Days Juniors program. Chris Neary, Frontier Days sponsor, smiles with Hailey Riley and his plaque. Below: Attending past Sweethearts smile together including, back row, from left: 2024 winner Elena Arkelian; 2019 and 2020 winner Jaden Doak, holding daughter Oakley; 2011 winner Riata King McKemy; 2009 winner Lindsey Bowlds; 2018 winner Lilah Garman Schmid; 2005 winner Ashton Bloomquist; 2004 winner Tina Holguin; 2000 winner Olivia Grupp; 1988 winner Nicol Persico Kunka; 2008 winner Kinzie Barlow; and 1974 winner Kathy Persico Graves. Front row, from left: 2023 winner Hazel Cooke; 2022 winner Danielle Barry; 2021 winner Claire Case Brackett; 1955 winner Shirley Merritt Nikolashin; 1979 winner Liz Persico Day; 1985 winner Tracey Ford Moody, holding Hadley; and 2017 winner Hailey Riley.



Above, left: A one-of-a-kind Ford tailgate bench donated by Paul Riley to help raise money for the Willits Frontier Days Juniors Club was purchased by Andrew Hosford for \$6,500. Riley, worried to see the bench potentially not return home with him, bid on it, too, but was outbid in the end. Wood was donated by Matt Harbour and additional assistance in its creation was done by Fred Barry. Above, right: The Sweetheart winner swag, including a silver tiara sponsored by Cavanaugh C Ranch, buckle sponsored by Paul and Diana Hosford, spurs sponsored by Outlaw Saddle, and a leather sash made and sponsored by Mary Ann Underhill. J.D. Redhouse sponsored the Sweetheart dinner, as well as the saddle, which was delayed in transit. At right: Jenn Drew purchased this western quilt made by Diane Ford for \$1,000 which goes towards the Tracy LeGris Scholarship fund.



Sweetheart Dinner and Sponsor Appreciation

Willits Frontier Days crowns 2025 winner; thanks and honors sponsors; raises money for Willits Frontier Days Juniors Club

Friends, family, community and Willits Frontier Days supporters gathered on the lawn at the rodeo grounds on Sunday, June 29 to celebrate the crowning of this year's Sweetheart winner, and give thanks to many of the individuals, families and businesses who help make Willits Frontier Days happen each year.

Maureen Jennison
Graphics & Photographress
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Lisa Arkelian and Kristen Helms were the two contestants for this year's crown, and between the two, managed to sell some \$71,815 in tickets. Between the ticket sales and scores received at their horsemanship and poise and personality judging contests earlier this month, the winner was determined to be Lisa Arkelian.

Both women will receive a portion of their ticket sales as a cash prize, and the winner receives a silver tiara, belt buckle and spurs, and a custom leather sash and saddle, flowers, and more; gets to wear the perpetual chaps; and has their

name added to the roster of the almost 100 women before.

Past Sweethearts are always welcome to attend the dinner, this year with 18 in attendance.

Next year will be the 100th year of Willits Frontier Days and will be deemed "The Year of the Sweetheart" with special surprises in store to celebrate the centennial celebration.

Major sponsors and some of those integral to the running of the endeavor were honored, including Grand Marshals Paul and Bonnie Riley; Heritage Award winner Jeff Cook; and Top Hand Steven Hoyle.


The Willits Frontier Days Juniors Club raised funds towards their goal of attending the National Finals Rodeo through live auction items and special big-ticket items which were purchased at the dinner,

Read the rest of **Dinner** Over on page 11

See these and many more photos from this and all the Willits Frontier Days events over the years by visiting: <https://photographress.zenfolio.com/willitsfrontierdays>



Above: The oldest Sweetheart winner who attended the dinner, 1955 winner Shirley Merritt Nikolashin; stands with Lee Persico and smiles with her rose. See the entries from Merritt's 1955 win from the Soroptimist International of Willits' Willits Frontier Days 1926-1976 history book on page 15.



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Above, from left: Candice Stein leads the group through Sun Salutations, an integral part of the practice of Hatha Yoga. Bonnie Belt has been practicing yoga for about a year and says she has derived many benefits from her participation. Annie Evarts, who is seven-months pregnant, stretches in downward-facing dog – Evarts will be leading the Yoga in the Park class next Sunday. Below: Yoga, in addition to the physical benefits, is a meditational and respectful practice. At right: Recreation Grove Park provides a cool and quiet spot for about 20 people practicing and learning proper yoga techniques.



Above: Erin Corley creates healing sound vibrations on her set of chakra-specific sound bowls. Below, left: The Yoga in the Park participants work to concentrate their breath as part of the Elemental Yoga practice which combines Hatha Yoga with other modalities. Below, right: Candice Stein has the yoga participants stretch while they concentrate on breathing and relaxation.



Photos by Mathew Caine



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Yoga in the Park

Flourish and Flow Mendo hosts summer series of donation-based yoga in the open air on Sundays

On Sundays, at 10 am in Recreation Grove Park, the yoga instructors of the Flourish and Flow Mendo studio of Willits conduct a one-hour yoga session under the trees, in the open air. The sessions are free, but participants are encouraged to donate for causes that benefit many other residents of the area.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com
“We are offering a summer series of donation-based yoga in the park,” explained Erin Corley, owner and instructor at Flourish and Flow. “One of our instructors, on July 20, offered to do a family-based fitness class. Today and through July we will have donations going to the Willits Food Bank. We saw that they were struggling. We thought that would be a good place for donations to go to this month. After that, I will talk with the Humane Society and see what their needs are for August. We can help them with donations in August.

When Willits Weekly visited the Yoga in the Park session on Sunday, Candice Stein guided the group in a gentle yoga flow which ended in the healing sounds of Corley’s crystal bowls.

“The yoga is going to be all levels welcome,” Corley explained. “We will have different instructors. Next week, Annie [Evarts] is going to be teaching. We have several different yoga instructors in our studio. We have several yoga classes regularly at the Flourish and Flow studio. Candice teaches two times a week, actually once a week now because one of her classes is usually Sunday at 10 am, which is the time we do Yoga in the Park.

“Candice teaches Elemental Yoga,” Corley said. “It’s a hatha-style yoga. We have a vinyasa power yoga, 26 x 2 hot yoga [twenty-six poses and two breathing exercises]. I teach Buti yoga. That style is more cardio, plyometrics, high-paced, high-energy. Not all yoga is relaxing.”

Most practitioners of the yogic discipline realize benefits from the continued practice of the art. People of all ages find that yoga can enhance their health and well-being. Ceramic artist Bonnie Belt has been enjoying the calming effects and exercise that yoga can provide.

“I’ve been doing yoga at Flourish and Flow now for about a year,” said Belt. “I started here in the park about a year ago. They got me started on it and now I do it two days a week at the studio. I don’t really know much about yoga. I follow Candice. Yoga keeps me moving, stretching. I’m not really good at doing the quick changes to different positions but I can do a lot of the stretching ones. It’s keeping me pretty limber that way. That’s the key, to keep moving if you want to keep going.

“I love it at the park here,” Belt shared. “I really enjoy this because it’s a great atmosphere. I think we get more people here because they’re not as intimidated as they are in a studio. That’s why I started. I never did yoga before coming here last year. I came to check it out and I really liked it. I’m really looking forward to this in the park again this year.”

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STORE HOURS
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Sunday
8 am - 6 pm
9 am - 5 pm

Read the rest of
Yoga
Over on page 13

LEGAL NOTICES

WW545
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2025-F0258
The following person or persons are doing business as
Greenwood Gardening, 43
Alameda Avenue, Willits, CA
95490.
Registered owners: Deanne Ledebuhr, 162 East Mendocino Avenue, Apt. B, Willits, CA 95490 and Garrett Moore-Zachary, 43 Alameda Avenue, Willits CA 95490
This business is conducted by copartners.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 20, 2025.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 23, 2025.
/s/ Garrett Moore-Zachary
Publication Dates: July 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025

WW545
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2025-F0266
The following person or persons are doing business as
Lettuce Make You Happy, 18950 Walker Road, Willits, CA 95490; 707-731-7562.
Registered owner: Omar Sisemore, 32 Fort Bragg Road, Willits, CA 95490.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on December 10, 2020.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 4, 2025.
/s/ Omar Sisemore
Publication Dates: June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 2025

WW547
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2025-F0293
The following person or persons are doing business as
Lettuce Make You Happy, 18950 Walker Road, Willits, CA 95490
Registered owners: David N. Weigt and Deborah M. Weigt, 18950 Walker Road, Willits, CA 95490
This business is conducted by copartners.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on June 1, 2024.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 23, 2025.
/s/ Deborah M. Weigt and David N. Weigt
Publication Dates: July 3, 10, 17, 24, 2025



Above: Little Lake Fire Department’s Deana Rutledge, left, and Harry So, right, stand with Willits Frontier Days’ Hailey Riley as they accept their sponsorship plaques at the annual dinner.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

The rest of
Dinner
From page 9

including a custom bench, a Stars and Stripes quilt, and large his-and-hers cement flower pots, one containing drinks on ice, the other potted flowers. The flower pots were donated by NorCal Recycled Rock and Aggregates and purchased by Paul and Bonnie Riley for \$600.

Silent auction items included a Bloody Mary basket donated by Hailey Riley and Steven Hoyle sold to Tracy Moody for \$155; A horse print by Natalie Campbell and Right Lead Studios sold for \$60 to Hailey Riley; a mini bar donated by Fred Barry Trucking went to Tim Hosford for \$150; and a Margarita Basket donated by D&R Ranch went to Ira Harvey for \$150.

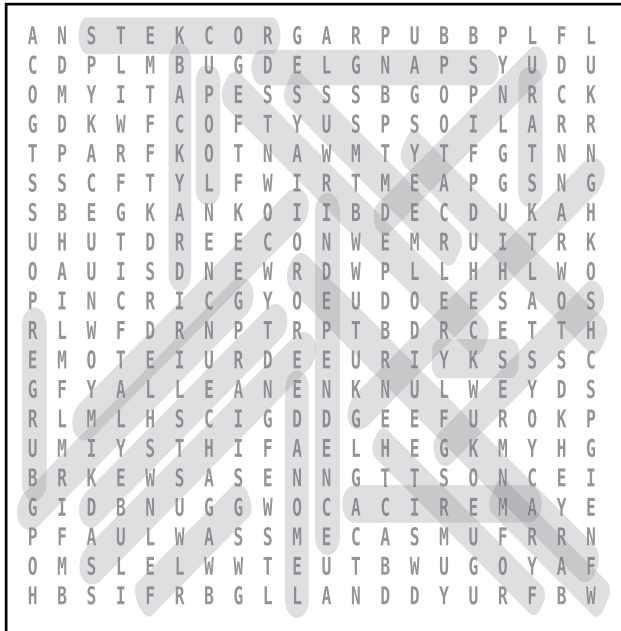
The dinner event is sponsored by J.D. Redhouse, and Willits Frontier Days Treasurer June Sizemore is in charge of preparing the annual meal, which included fruit, green and pasta salads, macaroni and cheese, cheesy potatoes, barbecued beef, rolls and a baked potato bar. Individual Kemmy’s pies were also available for dessert.

“We would like to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude,” Marcy Barry, Willits Frontier Days Vice President posted on Facebook Tuesday morning: “In the hustle and bustle of our activities, we sometimes overlook the importance of acknowledging the contributions of individuals, volunteers, and sponsors. Please understand that any oversight is unintentional, and we deeply value the efforts of everyone involved in ensuring the continued success of Willits Frontier Days year after year. If we have inadvertently missed recognizing you, know that your contributions are greatly appreciated.”

MENDOCINO COUNTY
1870

Mendocino County invites applications for:
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3 bed SFH \$ 1675
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2 bed APT \$ 1200
1 bed SFH \$ 1250
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Cosmic Family Band



Schindig



Isle of Stipe

CLASSIFIED ADS

Brown Bag Lunch Program

Every Saturday at 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider Park on East Commercial. . Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher’s Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

Room for Rent

For rent master bedroom and bath. Private entrance, no shared space, includes refrigerator, utilities, internet. AC. 1 person 50 or older. \$750 month; rental referral required. 805 259-9155.

Free Food for All Pop-Up

Mendocino Food Network presents food pop-ups with free food for all: Due to the impact of federal budget cuts, there will be only one monthly popup. In Willits, on 1st Thursdays, from 10 to 11:30 am, at 1250 Blosser Lane, Laytonville, every 4th Thursday, 12 to 1 pm at 300 Cauto Drive. In Covelo, every 2nd Thursday, from 12 to 1 pm, at NEW ADDRESS: 24065 Rifle Road. In Leggett: Every 1st Tuesday from 12 to 1 pm at 65100 Drive-Thru Tree Road. Info: Rachelle@mendofood.org; 707-615-6654.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV’s and Trailers – starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www.oaknvine.net/tip

Tattoo Shop

Tattoo Shop in Downtown Willits! Clean, cute, and private shop with 10 years experience. Love to tattoo botanicals, cute critters, and sceneries! Appointments and bookings: kikiblattoos.com

Add your ad to next week’s paper!

4th of July weekend at Shanachie Pub

Submitted by Shanachie Pub

Shanachie Pub Craft Brew & Cider House is celebrating Independence Day weekend with four live shows. The fun kicks off on Friday, July 4 at 5 pm with a performance by Isle of Stipe’s stylized, dynamic rock music with intelligent, life-driven lyrics that rip apart the human experience in search of meaning or just a good time. The sound ranges from acoustic folk style softness to more edgy, loop-centered electric rock. Isle of Stipe is “self-help rock,” music for your brain and soul.

Next up at 8 pm on Friday is Schindig, a band of homegrown Mendocino County boys playing a unique, eclectic blend of folk, rock, country and blues with a jolt of world music thrown in for good measure. The band has shared the stage with such notable acts as Tommy Castro, Pato Banton and Blue Turtle Seduction. Their outlook has always been to proudly wear their collective influences on their sleeves, while being unafraid to look to the future and explore new sounds. And now, as always, they have stuck to the same goal of entertaining, inspiring and “moving” audiences in all senses of the word. Check out their Facebook page to learn more.

On Saturday, July 5, starting at 3 pm, join in or listen in on the Bluegrass String Jam. This event happens every first and third Saturday of the month and welcomes all bluegrass musicians. The jam session is listed as an official event for the California Bluegrass Association, so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in.

Following the Bluegrass String Jam is a performance by Cosmic Family Band at 8 pm. The Cosmic Family Band is a local Mendocino County jam band, sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community.

Shanachie Pub is located at 50-B South Main Street. Call 459-9194 for more info.



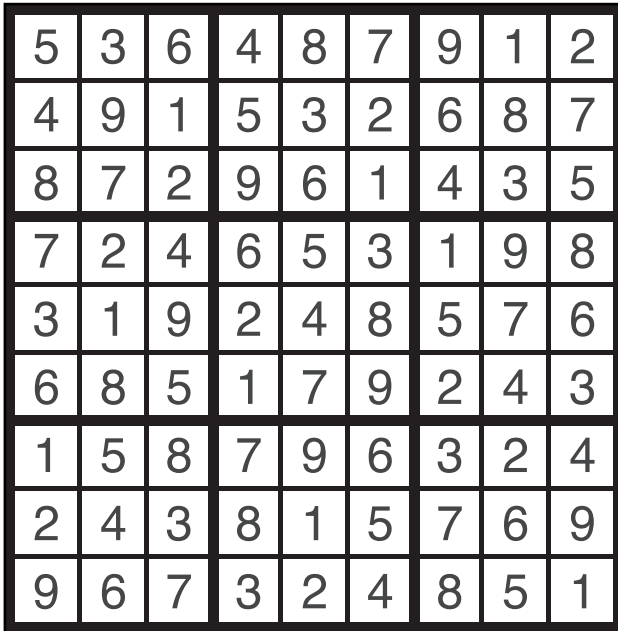
Bluegrass String Jam

HELP WANTED:

Casino Controller at Sherwood Valley Casino

Benefits, Salary: \$98K - \$110K

The Casino Controller directs the cashiering, vault, drop and count areas in a manner that safeguards the assets of the Sherwood Valley Casino, while establishing and maintaining acceptable accounting procedures and internal controls and assures all external and internal regulations are met. Has direct supervision of Cage/Vault, Drop, and Count Supervisors. Exercises management responsibility for all activities of the Accounting/Finance Department. Activities include direct hands-on oversight of audit, accounting, general ledger, reporting, payroll, purchasing, cashiering, and count room operations. Responsible for the company’s overall operating and capital budgets, internal control policies, insurance and risk management programs, and relationships with financial institutions, casino’s compliance with provisions of the State Compact, NIGC, Tribal ordinances, Gaming Commission regulations, cash transactions reporting, and IRS withholding and reporting requirements. Contact the General Manager at mftzgerral@svrcasino.com or 707-459-7350.



Furry Friends
Hoping for a Home



Devoted
Kelly

Kelly is a sweet, shy girl who would love a nice soft bed in a window or sun. She can be a little reserved with new people, but once she gets to know you, she will be your best friend and a loyal companion. The best way to see what a wonderful cat she is would be to come down to the shelter and meet her in person!

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Thoughtful Kobe

Kobe is one of 91 dogs who suddenly found themselves with nowhere to go. He landed at Milo Foundation Sanctuary with several of his friends.

Kobe is cautious but loving. He is not going to leap on you joyously, but rather he will check you out and come

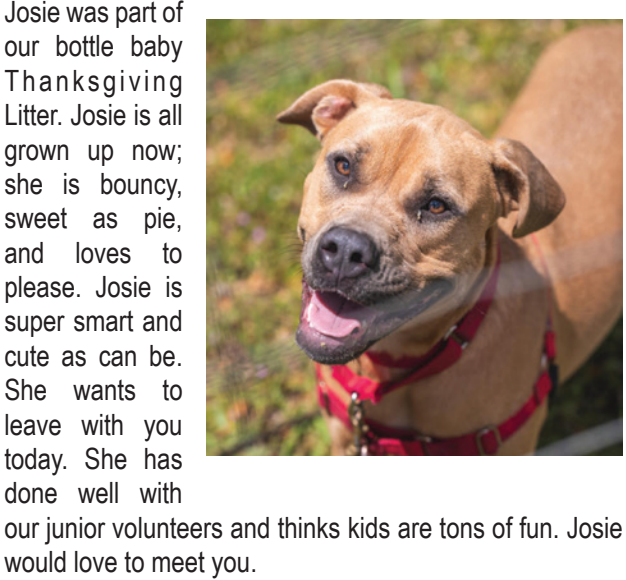


closer and closer as he begins to trust. Kobe hasn't been at the Sanctuary long, so is still settling in. With his scruffy terrier face, bright brown eyes, and his curious but cautious nature, he is simply irresistible.

To learn more about Kobe, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-4900.

Kind Josie

Josie is on the hunt for the chance to find her match!



Josie was part of our bottle baby Thanksgiving Litter. Josie is all grown up now; she is bouncy, sweet as pie, and loves to please. Josie is super smart and cute as can be. She wants to leave with you today. She has done well with our junior volunteers and thinks kids are tons of fun. Josie would love to meet you.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Adventist Health Howard Memorial
hosts free sports physicals, Back to School
and Community Resource Fair

Submitted by AHHM

Adventist Health Howard Memorial is proud to host its annual Free Sports Physicals, Back to School and Community Resource Fair for school-age kids on Sunday, July 13, from 7 am to 12 pm. The event will take place at Adventist Health Howard Memorial's Redwood Medical Clinic at 3 Marcela Drive, Suite C. in Willits.

This free event will provide sports physicals for youth athletes, along with backpacks and school supplies for students. In addition to medical services, families can enjoy a community fair featuring local organizations offering resources and engaging activities.

"This event demonstrates our ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of local youth and their families," said Amy Buckingham, Patient Care Executive. "We understand that the costs of sports participation and school essentials can be a challenge for many families. That's why we're proud to provide free physicals and vital school supplies – to help ease that burden and support an active, healthy lifestyle for our kids."

In California, a sports physical is required for students participating in school athletics. These exams are essential for identifying potential health concerns such as asthma, heart conditions, or past concussion injuries that could impact a child's safety in sports. While sports physicals satisfy school requirements, parents are encouraged to schedule annual well-child exams for more comprehensive health screenings.

"We're proud to host an event that connects health services, local organizations, and the community," said Melissa DeSmith, Practice Manager at Redwood Medical Clinic. "Our goal is to create a welcoming space where families can easily access the support they need –

whether it's a physical for a young athlete or guidance on local resources."

Jeff Mock, Operations Executive at Adventist Health Mendocino Coast, added: "Partnerships like this show what's possible when healthcare and community organizations work together. We're grateful to all our local partners who are joining us to provide valuable resources and uplift our community."

Parental consent is required for youth physicals; forms will be available on site.

The Back to School and Community Resource Fair will feature booths and activities from a variety of local partners, including:

- Adventist Health Howard Memorial featuring Back-to-School supplies and the Registered Dietitian team with diabetes education, a trivia game, and fresh fruit to snack on
- County of Mendocino Public Health with vaccination
- MCHC Health Centers with Dental Care resources
- Worthington Neurointegration Applied Kinesiology
- Mendocino County Youth Project
- Face Painting
- Balloon Animals
- And more

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit, integrated health system, serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawai'i, with over 440 sites of care, including 27 acute care facilities. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care, and hospice agencies in both rural and urban communities.

Ladies, Take Charge
of Your Health!



Join Us for PAP-A-PALOOZA and
Protect Yourself Against
Cervical Cancer with a Pap test!

Early detection can save lives — don't wait! Take advantage of these special events and make your health a priority.

We will have the clinic the **second Saturday of each month** for PAPs.

Together, we can fight cervical cancer!

Call **MCHC** now to schedule your appointment and protect yourself today.

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WE HAVE
OPTIONS.



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HILLSIDE | DORA ST | LITTLE LAKE | LAKEVIEW
PRIMARY CARE • WOMEN'S HEALTH • PEDIATRICS • DENTISTRY • BEHAVIORAL HEALTH • SPECIALTY CARE

The rest of
Transition | From page 1

the fire abatement and vegetation nuisance. So, we are trying to get ours in alignment so that we can do what Brooktrails has been doing. It's going to be a long process, and we are moving forward with it."

Next up, the board focused attention on the Consent Calendar item: "Review and Approval of the Accounts Payable" and authorization to issue checks on or about June 25, 2025. Director Ed Horrick made the motion to approve the total payments of \$316,428.05, and Director Susan Mahoney seconded the motion. Board approval was then unanimous.

There was one item on the evening's agenda: "Discussion and Consideration of Request for Proposals for Management and Operations Services to Brooktrails Golf Course."

Brooktrails Township General Manager Tamara Alaniz said: "This item is responsive to the direction of the board at the last meeting to develop a request for proposals to circulate around and get proposals in house for a new golf course operator. The board may want to have some discussion, and please let me know if you have any questions."

Director Mahoney spoke, saying: "I have an overall concern that the language in the proposal does not clearly differentiate what the responsibility of the district is and what is the operator's. It gets 'mooshy' about improvements, repairs, and what is a capital expense; what is the operator liable for? It should be the purview of the operator to maintain the equipment, and my concern is what is the district responsible for specifically and what is the operator responsible for?"

"And that comes also through the fee of 3-5%," Mahoney said. "I would rather not have the fee designated for improvements of the golf course but rather at the discretion of the district – what that money would be used for. The 3-5% fee is the cost of the operator doing business on the golf course. The fees do not go full circle back to the operator."

Board vice-president Rick Williams said: "I did not realize how extensive and detailed the agreement between the district and the operator was. This is a lot to digest, and I'd suggest that we form an ad hoc committee to proceed with this and meet with the general manager to go over this in detail before it comes back to the board."

Horrick suggested that Mahoney and Tyler-O'Shea would comprise the ad hoc committee, and both responded that they would be happy to take part in that. He made a motion to form the committee to review the RFP on the golf course. Director Mary Ziady seconded the motion. It was agreed that the ad hoc committee would report back to the board at the July 22 meeting.

Jaclyn Christian stepped to the podium. Christian is the current co-operator, with her partner Marcus Newby, of the Brooktrails Golf Course. She had a proposal to submit to the board, and she said: "My hope is that the proposal I have will fill in some of the gaps for you. There's a contractual agreement but there are two separate things that are at play here: our business and the operations. We bought the business. We bought everything that you can detach and take with you from the previous operator. We would like the opportunity to sell these things."

Horrick informed Christian, "That is included in this."

Continuing, Christian said, "I would really like the transfer of operations to be successful. I wish we could be included in more because we have a lot of knowledge that could be very helpful."

She then provided each board member with a copy of a proposal that she and her partner felt would allow for a successful transition for a new operator to take over.

Mahoney interjected, saying: "I have another question. For a successful proposal, anyone looking at operating the golf course would need some numbers. My understanding is that you've not provided financial statements to the board. That puts us at a huge disadvantage to have serious-minded people come to make a proposal to us. What is the golf course? How much money can it make?"

Christian's response was: "There's a lot to it. It's what we own currently and it's our good will and everything that we've built over the last decade. It's not just the numbers. What we wanted to do is provide the financial information in a certain way."

At this point the conversation between Mahoney and Christian appeared to arrive at a stalemate. Tyler-O'Shea asked for a halt in the discussion so that the board could vote on the motion regarding the ad hoc committee and its timely response back to the board. The board then voted unanimously to go with the plan to have the committee report back on July 22.

Brooktrails Counsel Chris Neary asked Christian to designate the contact person that the next operator could be in contact with in order that there might be a good transition to a new operator. Christian agreed to do

The rest of
Yoga | From page 10

is relaxation, being able to relax in the body to restore and heal. It's also meant to bring the mind into a more harmonious, peaceful state. Those are the two goals of yoga that I teach. I have all the traditional pranayama and hatha poses incorporated into this, arriving at a state of more harmony or balance in the body."

This session at Rec Grove attracted about 20 practitioners and closed with the healing properties of sound bowls performed by Corley. "Our body is made up of more than 70 percent water, so the vibration helps heal your body. Sound healing has been used for thousands of years, going back to Buddhists and other religions. Each of the eight bowls are quartz crystal and tuned for each different chakra of the body," Corley explained.

Yoga in the Park will be in Recreation Grove Park each Sunday from 10 to 11 am. Bring a mat and enjoy the benefits of this ancient practice, for all ages.

To learn more about Flourish and Flow Mendocino, visit their Facebook page or www.flourishandflowmendo.com/.

'Willits Storywalk' –
Take a stroll through
a story!

Submitted by the Willits Library

The Willits Branch Library invites families and readers of all ages to enjoy the magic of reading and the joy of a walk with the Willits Storywalk, from July 1 to 31.

As you explore downtown Willits, discover "Luci" by Paula Teran Ospina, a beautiful bilingual story unfolding page by page in the windows of local businesses. Each stop reveals the next part of the tale, bringing the story to life in the heart of our community.

Get started at the Willits Branch Library by picking up a free Storywalk map to guide your journey. As you visit each page location, mark it off, and when you're done, return your completed map to the library to receive a free book (Free books available for children and teens only).

For more information, please visit www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Willits Story Walk –
¡Date un paseo por
una historia!

La Biblioteca Willits Branch invita a familias y lectores de todas las edades a disfrutar de la magia de la lectura y la alegría de un paseo con el Willits Storywalk®, del 1 al 31 de julio de 2025.

Mientras explora el centro de Willits, descubre "Luci" de Paula Terán Ospina, una hermosa historia bilingüe que se desarrolla página a página en los escaparates de los negocios locales.

Cada parada revela la siguiente parte del relato, dándole vida en el corazón de nuestra comunidad.

Comience su recorrido en la Biblioteca Willits Branch con un mapa gratuito del Storywalk®. Al visitar cada página, márquela y, al terminar, devuélvela el mapa completo a la biblioteca para recibir un libro gratis (Libros gratuitos disponibles solo para niños y adolescentes).

Para más información, visite www.mendolibrary.org o comuníquese con la Biblioteca Willits Branch al 707-459-5908.

The rest of
Hiked | From page 1

are so concerned with their survival and so deflated. It's a dangerous space."

An excise tax is a levy imposed on a good by the state before sales taxes are applied. While a push to freeze the cannabis excise tax through the state budget failed last month, a bill that would lower the rate back to 15% for the next six years is still moving through the Legislature. Newsom has pledged to sign a proposal halting the tax increase if it reaches his desk.

"I'm intimately familiar with the conversations around that and have great confidence that we'll achieve our stated goals," Newsom said during a press conference Monday.

Cannabis growers, dispensary owners, and consumer advocates rallied for months at the state Capitol to avert the tax increase, which they argue could deal a fatal blow to businesses already operating with slim margins.

The price of weed has plummeted since voters legalized recreational cannabis through Proposition 64 in 2016, the result of a rush to overproduction even as most cities and counties in the state remain closed off to retail sales. Meanwhile, California is struggling to bring its market out of the shadows; the state Department of Cannabis Control estimates that legal sales still comprise less than 40% of weed consumption in California, which the industry attributes to state and local excise and sales taxes that can increase prices for consumers by a third.

Taxable cannabis sales in California dropped to \$1.09 billion for the first quarter of 2025, down 30% from their peak in early 2021 and the lowest quarterly sales in five years.

Tax was intended to offset cannabis harms

It's a crisis for the industry – communities that traditionally relied on cannabis production have collapsed economically – but also a

The rest of
Funds | From page 1

the year, roll the Measure K fund into the general fund to make the general fund whole. There are some large obligations that have to come out of the general fund, liabilities, insurance payments. I'm not sure how that happens without using Measure K."

Council member Burton was uncompromising: "We need a complete freeze, a hiring freeze. We're burning cash at the rate of a million dollars a month. Maybe it's going to drop, I've yet to see any projections."

The council is hindered by a lack of current financial information. Finance director Manual Orozco is two years behind preparing financial reports. Wilburn added: "How do we get through the next month, through the next six months? We still don't have a 2023-2024 audit, we don't know where 2024-2025 started, we don't know what the 2025-2026 starting balance is, not even approximated."

Mayor Tom Allman said: "We're going to tighten our belt because we don't have the money. We're going to discuss carrying on our budget as it is, with no plan to have any major projects done in the city."

A big problem with carrying on the budget "as it is" is that no one yet knows what that means. Sherie Ebyam, a member of the Measure K Committee, and an experienced financial manager, pointed out that for the 2025-2026 budget, "There are no totals anywhere, no beginning fund balances, no projected end balance. You couldn't tell what are the total revenues, what are the total expenses. How do you continue to do business 'as it is' without knowing what the 'as-it-is' is?"

Council members were obviously displeased with Orozco's reports and

REF Carnival wristbands now on sale

"Magic is Reel" at the 2025 Redwood Empire Fair, July 31 to August 3, at the REF Fairgrounds, 1055 North State Street, in Ukiah. Carnival presale wristband tickets are available now for \$30 at all Mendo Mills in Mendocino County, Ukiah Taco Bell, Raleys, Chavez Market, and Creative Workshop. The presale ends Thursday July 31 at 2:30 pm. Carnival presale wristband tickets are also available now for \$33 on the redwoodempirefair.com website. The presale ends Thursday, July 31 at 2:30 pm. Redwood Empire Fair hours: Thursday, July 31, from 3 to 10 pm; Friday, August 1, from 3 to 10 pm; Saturday, August 2, from 12 noon to 10 pm; and Sunday, August 3, from 12 noon to 10 pm. Carnival wristband tickets are \$38 at the fair.

explanations. Burton stated: "You told us a month ago that sales tax has been steadily dropping. Doing a budget anticipating the same revenue is overly optimistic." Council member Gerry Gonzalez added, "I agree with Bruce and people who are asking, what's the plan. You didn't bring me a plan, you just brought a 'Mother may I.' I'm hoping that when you come back you're giving us some hard numbers."

In the interim, with no budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the council voted on a resolution authorizing the city to continue doing business based on the prior year's budget – which itself is not even completed – but with a hiring freeze except for critical police, water or sewer personnel. Council member Gonzalez, who made the motion, said it was to "just pay the regular bills and maintenance budget until we can get to the bottom of where we're at."

Burton was still not satisfied, and voted no: "We need a clearer message right now that we are in a serious predicament, and that staff understands that we need to get vital information in the next two weeks." Council member Larry Stranske, who did not speak during the discussions or give any reason for his vote, also voted no. The resolution passed 3 to 2.

The resolution is valid only for 30 days. If there is no final budget passed within 30 days, the resolution will have to be extended by another vote of the council. According to city attorney Jim Lance, the final budget must be filed with the county auditor within 60 days of the July 1 start of the new fiscal year, unless exempted by the county auditor.

The council has scheduled an all-day budget workshop, with department heads, on Wednesday July 16. The public is invited to attend and participate.

\$180 million per year for the state.

"It's important to acknowledge that any freeze will create a budget shortfall which would impact critical community programs funded by cannabis tax dollars," he said.

California could 'forfeit a huge opportunity'

Industry representatives warn that further raising taxes will push price-sensitive customers back into the illicit market, hurting businesses teetering on the edge and actually lowering cannabis tax revenue in the long run.

"The math isn't there," said Amy O'Gorman Jenkins, executive director and lobbyist for the California Cannabis Operators Association. "We have no objections to how cannabis tax revenues are being spent. All we're maintaining is that you can't squeeze blood from a stone."

They haven't given up, though repealing the tax increase now that it's taken effect will be even more challenging.

Assembly Bill 564, which would set the cannabis excise tax at 15% through the end of June 2031, passed the Assembly unanimously in May and now awaits consideration in the Senate.

Assemblymember Matt Haney, the San Francisco Democrat who introduced the measure, said he will keep fighting to get it to the governor. But he was furious that the Senate allowed the tax hike to take effect, which he said sent a message to legal cannabis operators that there is no incentive to follow the rules.

"This tax could kill this industry and there's still not enough being done," he said. "California is going to forfeit what should have been a huge opportunity for our state."

CalMatters is a nonpartisan, nonprofit journalism venture committed to explaining how California's state Capitol works and why it matters. Visit www.CalMatters.org to learn more



OBITUARY |

Brian ‘Yoss’ Marshall

Brian Adams Marshall aka Yossarian or “Yoss” Marshall, a beloved and longtime resident of Willits, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 22, surrounded by the love of family and friends. Born in Hutchinson, Kansas on June 25, 1942, Yoss entered the world while his father was serving as a US Navy officer during World War II. As a young child, his family relocated to Vallejo, California, where he spent his formative years.

Yoss followed in his father’s footsteps and served honorably in the US Navy aboard the aircraft carrier USS Essex during the Vietnam War. Though not stationed in a combat zone, he served his country with dedication and collected many interesting stories.

In the early 1970s, Yoss made Willits his home and served over 40 years in the lumber industry. He built a life in Willits with his devoted wife of 47 years, Marilyn Marshall.

Yoss is survived by Marilyn, his loving wife; his adoring daughter from his first marriage, Zara Shahar Kotric (née Marshall), who resides in Denmark; his step-daughter Karen Merrell; and his step-son Mark Merrell. He is also survived by his ever-loving dog, Maxwell Smart.

Art and creativity were central to Yoss’s life. His passion for modern and eclectic art, jazz and folk music enriched his days, along with his love of poetry. Yoss was an accomplished metal sculptor, creating unique avant-garde pieces.

Known for his vibrant spirit, Yoss was truly the life of the party – a compassionate, caring soul whose humor and zest for life touched everyone he met. He leaves behind a wide circle of friends and a legacy of joy, laughter, and kindness.



His family finds comfort in the words of the wise philosopher Winnie the Pooh: “We didn’t realize we were making memories. We just knew we were having fun,” and “How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.”

Yoss will be deeply missed, and we wish him well on his next great adventure.

Thursday
July 10,
12:30


A-Bit and A-Bite
History at the Mendocino County Museum


Join us for a pre-recorded talk with Dr. Caroline Collins as she discusses her process, researching and curating, *Take Me to the Water*, now on exhibit at the Mendocino County Museum. Mendocino County Museum Curator, Lindsey Dick will host the event and follow up with group discussion.



"Take Me to the Water: Histories of the Black Pacific" is an exhibition curated by Dr. Caroline Collins, which expands our understanding of maritime history and culture by telling the stories of the many Black whalers, commercial mariners, fishers, explorers, soldiers, and sailors who traveled along the Pacific Coast and traversed the high seas from the 16th century to the present day.

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- REFRESHMENTS





400 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490 | (707) 254-6565
museum@mendocinocounty.gov
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Wednesday - Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday 12-4 p.m.

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Mid week promotions: Wednesday -
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REMINDER!
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HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON



(PG) 2hr 5min
Fri, Sat, Sun:
1:30, 4:15, 7:00
Wed-Thur:
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F1 THE MOVIE



(R) 1hr 55min
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3:15, 6:30
Wed-Thur:
3:15, 6:30


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Showtimes: July 4 to July 10

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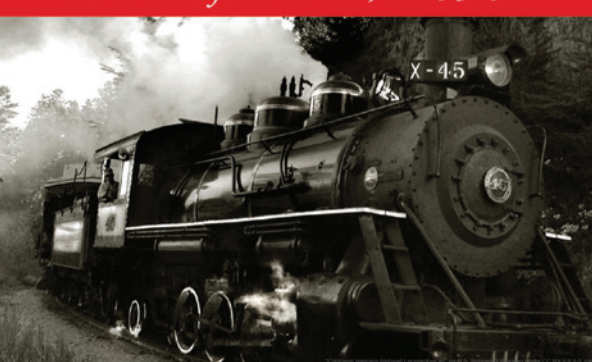
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ANTIDOTE

 Page: Be the Antidote
Group: Be the Antidote - Willits

The rest of
Pulls | From page 7

others, not so far. Some come out unscathed and can drive themselves away, some end up in a cloud of smoke, with a loud clunk, or other immobilizing outcomes and have to be escorted off the track.

Local and professional drivers compete in the events. A complete list of results from this year's pulls was provided by MLM Motorsports, below:

5,500-pound Street Truck Class: First place went to Dean Allen who pulled 268.14 feet; second to Frank Barrett driving Willie Nelson who pulled 226.67 feet; third to Dillon Barrett who pulled 224.69 feet; fourth to Jeff Whitby who pulled 187.88 feet; and fifth to Clink Jewell who pulled 57.37 feet.

6,500-pound Stock Truck Class: First place went to John Retzlloff driving GMCK15 who pulled 228.97 feet.

Pro Stock Diesel Class: First place went to Jim Mulrooney driving Hammer Down who pulled 351.5 feet.

Massetti Consulting's Limited Pro Stock Diesel Class: First place went to Tyler Brownlee driving Panda who pulled 303.97 feet; second to Michael Fields driving The Rumor who pulled 300.03 feet; and third place to Trevor Massetti driving All Smoked Out who pulled 289.77 feet.

All 11 placing drivers technically completed a full 300-foot pull in the Reeve Trucking's Pro Modified 6,200-pound Truck Class, but furthest still wins: First place went to Bob Morrill driving Bodashus who pulled 341.34 feet; second to Donnie Reeve driving Final Drive who pulled 325.82 feet; third to Garrett Reeve driving Triple Throw Down who pulled 325.69 feet; fourth to Spike Reeve driving Rags who pulled 325.60 feet; fifth to Larry Lopes driving Young Guns who pulled 325.50 feet; sixth to Mike Roberts driving Vindicator who pulled 322.32 feet; seventh to Doug Bradshaw driving Show No Mercy who pulled 322.26 feet; eighth to James Massetti driving Yellow Fever who pulled 320.40 feet; ninth to John Boer driving Code3 who pulled 316.25 feet; tenth to Bob Griffin driving Longshot who pulled 315.87 feet and eleventh to Ralph Tramp driving Agent Orange who pulled 312.22 feet.

CAIN Trucking's 7,400-pound Modified Tractor Class: First place went to Nick Guriel driving Semper Fi who pulled 273.93 feet.

6,000-pound Modified Tractor Class: First place went to David Leinfelder driving White Lightning who pulled 271.03 feet; second to Mark Zohns driving Bail Out who pulled 259.54 feet; and third to Mackay Hasch driving Mustang Legacy who pulled 253.59 feet.

Work Stock Diesel Class: First place went to Dean Anrig driving Silver Bullet who pulled 329.79 feet; second to Jason Soiland driving White Hammer who pulled 325.54 feet; and third to Tom Wallace driving Yank Tank who pulled 302.30 feet.

Super Modified Truck Class: First place went to Russell Steeley driving Gunsmoke who pulled a distance of 288.51 feet.

6,000-pound Super Stock Truck Class: First place went to Steve Jenkins driving Farmers Toy who pulled 231.23 feet.

Country Modified Class: First place went to Jason Cushenberry driving The Corn Child who pulled 280.16 feet.

Stock Diesel Truck Class: First place went to Christopher Flores driving The Nuisance who pulled 309.51 feet; second to Bryson Prock driving The Wrench Rat who pulled 292.32 feet; third to Rocky Stansberry driving War Pig who pulled 283.69 feet; fourth to Lou Narvaez driving The Goat who pulled 273.27 feet; fifth to Randall Parker driving Old Iron who pulled 266.69 feet; sixth to James Lemos driving Trash Panda who pulled 264.67 feet; seventh to James Jewell driving Marketplace 6 Leaker who pulled 260.48 feet; eighth to Jeff Whitby who pulled 256.27 feet; and ninth to Alisha Narvaez driving Rusty who pulled 110.14 feet.

OMG Class: First place went to Adrian Baroza driving GMC2017 who pulled 285.71 feet and second to Parker Watts driving Methany who pulled 65.77 feet.

A glimpse of Willits Frontier Days, and Willits, in 1955

The 1955 Sweetheart winner, Shirley Merritt Nikolashin, attended the annual Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart dinner this year, so Willits Weekly thought it would be fun to include a little history of the celebration that year in this excerpt from the book "Willits Frontier Days - 1926-1976" compiled by the Soroptimist International of Willits and committee members Ernestine Porro and Colleen Smith with graphics and composition by Lois Mahan in 1975 shares wonderful historical tidbits like the below. Shirley noted that in 1955, tickets were \$0.25 each, and she managed to sell \$2,000 worth that year to cinch the win. The runner up, as noted below, was Sharon Lon. The entire book is scanned and available to view in full on the Willits Frontier Days website: https://www.willitsfrontierdays.com/programs/26to76_book.pdf

Logan Anker was President of Frontier Days in 1955 and brought back such events as the amateur show under Bud Sowash and Logging by Carth Sanders. The parades, two of them, were headed by Nellie Corbett and her committee: Alma Albee, Elizabeth Kroch, Frances Pullen, Art Smith, Troy Thompson, Marshall Merritt, and Jack Cress.

Lee Kenworthy handled publicity, Eddie Anderson the barbecue, Harold Jorgensen the Sweetheart Contest, William Baechtel ticket sales, Al Greenberg and William Whitney finances, and Lee Persico, Sr., was general manager.

The theme: Life of Black Bart. Grand Marshal of the two parades was Jim Jones and his Palomino "musical horse" Golden Clipper from the East Valley. Three bands marched in the parade: The Willits High School Band, the Pine Street Junior High School Band, and the U.S. Navy Band, which also gave a concert in the City Park one evening.

Shirley Merritt was Sweetheart, sponsored by the Willits Horsemen's Association, coronated on July 3 at the rodeo grounds. Runner-up was Sharon Lon. The girls had horsemanship competition at the Top Hand Barbecue during the afternoon. Contest committeemen were Carl De Rego and Louis Serventi.

Sweetheart Shirley Merritt and her runner-up rode in the parade on the Chamber of Commerce float, done with a red velvet heart, on July 3. On the Fourth, they rode horses.

Parade Sweepstakes winners were Willits Campfire Girls float - Let Freedom Ring - and the runner-up Willits Firemen's Auxiliary with their Goddess of Liberty float.

More than 7,000 persons attended the two day show. The logging events contest, sponsored by the Willits Boosters Club, had log rolling, high climbing, chain saw, hand bucking, axe throwing, burling, speed chop, and an added attraction - women's hand bucking, won by Bessie Bennett of Willits and Catherine Allen of Upper Lake. These were held at the rodeo site.

Frontier Days cleared a profit of \$2,661.62 and after a funding advance was made on the year 1950 loss, they had a net profit of \$1,854.00.

In this year the traffic signal was installed and put into operation at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets.

Northbrook Manor had open house for its first unit of homes in May.


Brooktrails Guest Ranch suffered a \$100,000 blaze which destroyed the main lodge and dining room. Eddie and Marie Anderson were owners.

Total season rainfall was 37.20 inches, 8 inches under normal. Nevertheless, a record 7.88 inches in 24 hours during heavy storms washed out 10 bridges in the area.

The Blood Bank was initiated by the Business and Professional Women's Club.

Eden Valley Ranch was purchased from the Henshaw Investment Company by local men - Robert Harrah, E.M. Mc Kee, Jr., Earl Maize, Jr., and Frank Crawford.

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'Pomo Land' exhibit focuses on Pomo art and life, opens July 5 at WCA

Submitted by WCA

"Pomo Land" is a dual exhibit opening at Willits Center for the Arts on July 5, focusing on Pomo art and life in northern California. Our north gallery will feature the artwork of Melody Williams and the Cooper-Campbell family, and will include Pomo coil and twine basketry, beadwork, and quilt making with an emphasis on the Northern Pomo language.

The south gallery will present an exhibit, "No More Fallen Sisters," of photography by Craig Gardner, in collaboration with Pomo artist Misty Reyes. This exhibit of over 50 portraits has been created in response to the national crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, featuring indigenous women from nearly every tribal group in the region, who are all survivors of violence or are personally connected to someone who has been taken.

"Pomo Land" will open on Saturday July 5 from 6 to 8 pm, with art, food and refreshments. The exhibit will run through Sunday, August 3. WCA galleries are open from 11 am to 5 pm on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, at 71 East Commercial Street.. For more information, please email manager@willitscenterforthearts.org.



Far left, above: This hand-operated pump drill is still used by traditional Pomo jewelers to made holes in abalone and other shells and stones. At left, above: Misty Reyes is a local Pomo activist working with photographer Craig Gardner and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women organization to bring attention to the plight of kidnapped, missing, and murdered indigenous women.

Far left: Created by children from the Sherwood Pomo community, this art quilt shows local animals with their Northern Pomo language names. At left: The photographs shown in the "No More Fallen Sisters" exhibit, printed on slate, highlight the plight of the many indigenous women and girls who have been kidnapped, disappeared, and possibly murdered in so many Native communities, including our own.

Below: These necklaces are made by local Pomo using Pacific abalone and glass beads, using traditional techniques.



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